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PTO IDENTIFIER: Application Number 10/026,698-Conf. #9270
Patent Number

Inventor: Naganori Numao

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FROM: CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

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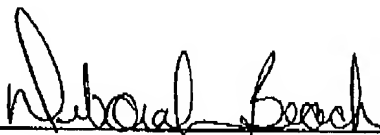
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Naganori Numao

Application No.: 10/026,698

Art Unit: 1631

Filed: December 27, 2001

Examiner: C. D. Ly

For: PREDICTION OF UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL
FUNCTION OF THE ACTIVE SITE IN
PROTEINS OR/AND POLYNUCLEOTIDES,
AND ITS UTILIZATION

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent
application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2
of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.